

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 01624 151700Z

61

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 DRC-01 /088 W

----- 110123

R 151618Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2784

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 1624

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, PFOR, UK, GR

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION VISIT BRITISH NAVAL VESSELS TO ATHENS

REF: STATE 51838

1. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ATHENS NEWS MARCH 15 IN FRONTPAGE STORY REPORTED UK "LABOR GOVERNMENT" HAD CANCELLED GOODWILL VISIT OF TWO BRITISH WARSHIPS TO ATHENS AS RESULT "RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN GREECE". STORY REPORTED UK FOREIGN OFFICE HAD ANNOUNCED CERTAIN ASPECTS OF SHIP VISIT PROGRAM BY ROYAL NAVY ABROAD WERE CURRENTLY "UNDER REVIEW" BY HMG.

2. EMBASSY HAS ALSO NOTED AP STORY FILED FROM LONDON WHICH AFFORDED SAME BASIC COVERAGE THIS STORY BUT ADDED SPECIFIC COMMENT THAT SHIP VISIT CANCELLATION "WAS PRESENTED AS MARK OF LABOR GOVERNMENT DISPLEASURE OF NON-DEMOCRATIC NATURE OF GREEK SYSTEM".

3. COMMENT: UK EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER TOLD OUR EMBOFF MARCH 15 THAT STORY AS CARRIED ATHENS NEWS "GENERALLY CORRECT" AND THAT SUBJECT SHIP VISITS WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE. ADDITIONALLY, UK EMBASSY NAVATT TOLD OUR NAVATT MARCH 15 THAT THE TWO UK SHIPS IN QUESTION, I.E. "CHARYBDIS" (FRIGATE) AND "TIGER" (CRUISER) HAD INDEED BEEN SCHEDULED PAY CALL ATHENS MARCH 15-19. HE ADDED THAT FIRE HAD OCCURRED IN ENGINE ROOM OF "CHARYBDIS" AND THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 01624 151700Z

HE HAD INITIALLY GIVEN THIS REASON TO HIS OPPOSITE NUMBER GOG

FOR CANCELLATION VISIT. HOWEVER, UK NAVATT ADMITTED THAT VISITS
WOULD HAVE BEEN CANCELLED ANYWAY DUE TO FACT THAT UK GOVERNMENT
CURRENTLY CARRYING OUT REVIEW OF NAVAL VISITS TO VARIOUS
COUNTRIES AND IT CONSIDERED PRUDENT TO CANCEL VISIT HERE
(DECISION MADE IN LONDON) UNTIL REVIEW COMPLETED AND POLICY SET.
BRANDIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, GOODWILL VISITS, MILITARY VISITS, NAVAL SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATHENS01624
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740341/aaaabmkb.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 51838
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANCELLATION VISIT BRITISH NAVAL VESSELS TO ATHENS
TAGS: OCLR, PFOR, UK, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005